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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown below:

1 (Currently Amended). An information management system organized to maintain an accurate representation of a list of data objects, comprising:

a system of record coupled to receive data objects;

a' an updating system external to the system of record and coupled to receive the data objects from the system of record and coupled to provide the data objects organized into a first list of data objects in a first format at predetermined intervals; and wherein the updating system includes a central directory containing a first database that includes data associated with the data objects wherein the data within the central directory is accessible by the system of record, the central directory coupled to receive the first list of data objects and further coupled to provide a second list of data objects in a second format to the updating system at the predetermined intervals; and

a security system external to the central directory, the security system containing a second database that includes a portion of the data of the first database wherein the second database is updated from the first database at the predetermined intervals.

2 (Original). The information management system of claim 1, wherein the system of record comprises:

a graphical interface coupled to provide a data input mechanism to the system of record and coupled to provide a data output mechanism from the system of record; and

a communication interface coupled to provide two-way communication between the system of record and the updating system.

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3(Original). The information management system of claim 1, wherein the updating system comprises a file transfer mechanism coupled to transfer the first list of data objects and coupled to transfer the second list of data objects at the predetermined intervals.

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4(Currently amended). The information management system of claim 1, wherein the central directory comprises:

a first directory server coupled to receive the first list of data objects and coupled to provide the second list of data objects; and

a second directory server coupled to receive the first list of data objects from the first directory server to maintain redundant sets of the first list of data objects.

5(Currently Amended). An information management system coupled to maintain synchronization of first data objects contained within a first storage area to second data objects contained within a second storage area, the information management system comprising:

a plurality of devices for use by users of the information management system;

a central directory having the first storage area and coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to store the data objects into the first storage area wherein the plurality of devices have access to information stored within the central directory;

a security system external to the central directory, the security system having the second storage area that includes the second data objects wherein the second data objects include at least a portion of information that is also within the first data objects;

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an event system coupled to detect a first set of all changes made to the first data objects and coupled to provide a second set of changes equal to at least a portion of the first set of all changes; and

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an update system coupled to receive the second set of changes and coupled to the security system to modify the second data objects in response to the second set of changes wherein the update system modifies the second data objects at predetermined intervals.

6(Currently Amended). The information management system of claim 5, wherein the central directory comprises:

a directory server coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to provide the first data objects to the first storage area contained within the directory server; and

a connection server coupled to receive the first data objects from the first storage area and coupled to provide the second data objects to the second storage area within the security system.

7(Currently Amended). The information management system of claim 5, wherein the event system comprises:

an event monitor coupled to receive the first set of changes made to the first data objects; and

a log application coupled to receive the first set of changes and coupled to provide the second set of changes at the predetermined time intervals.

8(Currently Amended). A method of operating an automatically updated information management system, comprising:

forming a central directory having a first database having information including financial information and also including employee information;

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providing a financial system of record external to the central directory wherein the financial system of record has access to the financial information within the central directory;

providing a human resources system of record external to the central directory wherein the human resources system of record has access to the employee information within the central directory;

providing a security system external to the central directory wherein the security system includes at least a portion of the employee information;

editing a first data object of the information in a first device one of the financial system or the human resources system;

detecting changes made to the first data object in the first device; and

equating a second data object to the first data object upon detection of the changes made to the first data object; and

synchronizing the second data object with the portion of the employee information within the security system.

9 (Currently Cancelled). The method of claim 8, wherein editing the first data object in the first device comprises:

authenticating a user at a data terminal; and
performing a data edit operation within the first device.

10 (Currently Cancelled). The method of claim 9 wherein authenticating the user at the data terminal includes authenticating the user at a wireless data terminal.

11 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 8, wherein detecting changes made to the first data object comprises:

executing an event services function within the first device; and

logging events from the event services function.

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12(Original). The method of claim 11, wherein equating the second data object to the first data object comprises:

examining the logged events which affect the second data object; and

updating the second data objects affected by the logged events to equate the second data objects to the first data objects.

a' 13(Currently Amended). A method of using an information management system to validate an external set of information, comprising:

storing a set of internal information in a first database within a central directory;

receiving a set of external information from a system of record external to the central directory;

comparing the set of external information to the set of internal information to produce a set of difference information; and

utilizing the set of difference information to alter the set of external information; and

synchronizing the difference information with a set of security information within a second database within a security system wherein the security information is used to provide employee ingress and egress procedures.

14(Currently Amended). The method of claim 13 wherein receiving a-the set of external information from the system of record external to the central in a directory comprises engaging a first file transfer function at predetermined intervals to place a file of information into a repository of the security system.

15(Original). The method of claim 14 wherein comparing the set of external information to the set of internal information

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comprises:

engaging a second file transfer function at the predetermined intervals to retrieve the file of information from the repository; and

comparing the file of information to the internal information to produce the difference information.

16(Original). The method of claim 13 wherein utilizing the set of difference information to alter the set of external information comprises engaging a scrubbing function to create an error report utilized to correct errors in the external information.

17(Currently Amended). A method of using an information management system to facilitate a new hiring process, comprising:

entering data associated with a new employee into a first database within a central directory;

automatically requesting employee services from within the central directory; and

adding the data associated with the new employee to an updating function of the information management system including adding the data associated with the new employee to employee security information stored within a second database that is within a security system wherein the security system is external to the central directory and provides ingress and egress procedures.

18(Original). The method of claim 17 wherein entering data associated with the new employee comprises:

authenticating a user at a data terminal; and

performing a data edit operation within the information management system to add data objects associated with the new employee.

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19(Original). The method of claim 17 wherein automatically requesting employee services comprises requesting electronic services including,

- (a) electronic mail accounts, and
- (b) electronic schedulers.

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20(Currently Amended). The method of claim 17 wherein adding the data associated with the new employee to an updating function comprises adding the data associated with the new employee to an automatic file transfer mechanism, wherein the automatic file transfer mechanism synchronizes employee data between a first device and a second device.

21(Currently Amended). The method of claim 17 wherein adding the data associated with the new employee to an updating function comprises:

triggering an event in response to adding the data associated with the new employee; and

initiating a data transfer from a first system to a second system in response to the event.

22(New). The method of claim 13 wherein receiving the set of external information from the system of record external to the central directory includes receiving the set of external information from a first system of record that is a financial system wherein the information includes asset information and also includes receiving the set of external information from a second system of record that is a human resources system having employment information.

23(New) The method of claim 1 wherein the data within the first database includes financial data and employee data.